

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly replace the claims of record with the following full set of claims:

1. (Previously presented) A record carrier comprising at least one area for storing disc management information, said record carrier further comprising an area, associated with a first one of said at least one area, comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use, each of said signals being related to a corresponding one of said at least one area for storing disc management information.
2. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein the area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use is located inside said first one of said at least one area for storing disc management information.
3. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein the area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use is located adjacent to said first one of said at least one area for storing disc management information.
4. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1 wherein the signals indicating which of said at least one area ~~areas~~ for storing disc management information is in use are clusters on said record carrier, said clusters comprising marks for indicating a first status of said at least one area for storing disc management information and comprising no marks for indicating a second status of said at least one area for storing disc management information.
5. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 4, wherein the first status indicates that a corresponding area of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use, and the second status indicates

that the corresponding area of said at least one area for storing disc management information is not in use.

6. (Currently amended) A method for recording information on a record carrier, said record carrier comprising at least one area for storing disc management information and an area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use, each of said signals being related to a corresponding one of said at least one area for storing disc management information, the method comprising the steps of:

accessing the area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use,

~~referencing~~ checking each of said signals;

determining from said signals the last area for storing disc management information which is in use, and

retrieving the disc management information contained within said determined last area for storing disc management information.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the step of accessing the area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one areas for storing disc management information is in use consists of referencing a predefined location on the record carrier.

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the step of retrieving the disc management information comprises retrieving pointer information from a predefined location in the determined last area for storing disc management information in use, and subsequently retrieving the disc management information by using said pointer information.

9. (cancel)

10. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein said area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use explicitly identifies said first one of said at least one area.

11. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein said area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use implicitly identifies said first one of said at least one area.

12. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein said first one of said at least one area is contained at a known region of said record carrier.

13. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 1, wherein said area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use is contained at a known region of said record carrier.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use explicitly identifies said first one of said at least one area.

15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use implicitly identifies said first one of said at least one area.

16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein said first one of said at least one area is contained at a known region of said record carrier.

17. (Previously presented) A record carrier comprising at least one layer, each of said at least one layer comprising:

at least one area of a known dimension for storing disc management information, wherein a first one of said at least one area has associated therewith an area comprising signals corresponding to selected ones of said at least one area for storing disc management information, said signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use.

18. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 17, wherein said area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use explicitly identifies said first one of said at least one area.

19. (Previously presented) The record carrier according to claim 17, wherein said area comprising signals indicating which of said at least one area for storing disc management information is in use implicitly identifies said first one of said at least one area.